(b) whether Government had any plans to create medical kiosks which would be within the reach of common people especially rural people and whether Government had received any proposal in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Health Sector is an important constituent for national development.

(b) and (c) No, Sir and no such proposal has been received.

Heavy rush of patients in Delhi hospitals

1365. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that various hospitals in the National Capital Territory of Delhi including AIIMS are facing the problem of heavy rush of patients;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to construct new hospitals in Delhi to tide over the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) There is indeed heavy rush of patients in the Central Government Hospitals in Delhi including AIIMS, as patients from all over the country, especially from neighbouring states visit these hospitals for different medical facilities. However, despite heavy rush of patients in OPD and IPD, adequate medical facilities are being provided to the patients. Steps like computerization for registration, common sample collection, patient information system, special clinics in the afternoon and supervision by designated officers are undertaken to reduce the waiting time of the patients. Further, strengthening and upgradation of the various departments of the Central Government hospitals is undertaken as per the need and availability of financial resources. There is however, no proposal to construct any new Central Government Hospital in Delhi.